applications for STD/PCO year-wise is as under :

1990-91—NIL

1991-92—NIL

1992-93—NIL

1993-94—3451 (as on 31-3-94).

No records are maintained in respect of oldest pending cases separately.

(b) STD/PCO allotment Committees are being convened as frequently as possible to consider the pending applications for allotment of STD/PCOs.

Cost free telephones in hospitals in Arunachal Pradesh

5364 SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cost-free telephones provided in the hospitals of Arunachal Pradesh district-wise; and

(b) the number of such cost-free telephones illegally possessed by officers in their residence giving the district-wise; details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) Sir, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Working hours in Postal Sub-divisions

5365 SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) how many postal sub-divisions are there in India;

(b) what are the working hours of the office of sub-divisional inspector or Assistant Superintendent in sub-divisions;

(c) whether it is a fact that each sub-divisional inspector, Assistant Superintendent is having a work-load of more than 15 hours; and

(d) if not, how much work-load, maximum minimum is there with the Sub-Division ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) 1797 (One thousand seven hundred ninety seven).

(b) The office of a sub-divisional Inspector/ ASP is a one-man office—the official having predominently touring duties, as he is required to spend on an average, more than 100 days on tour per annum. As such, no fixed office timings are observed—the official being treated more in the nature of a call duty staff.

(c) No Sir.

(d) the justification for the posts of Sub Divisional Inspectors/ASPOs is worked out on the basis of a formula evolved after a proper work study in consultation with the staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance. A fraction of 0.5 and above is rounded off to the next integer. This is an ongoing process and the justification is reviewed periodically.

Payment of rent etc. for single-handed post offices

5366. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that entire amount of rent, electricity and sweeping chargs in respect of single handed post offices is paid by the department but consolidated amounts for 'A', 'B' and 'C' cities are paid as compensation and the rest of the amount has to be paid by the incumbents;

(b) if so, why such discrimination and why the Department is not hiring a building for the office of these sub-divisions as is done in the case of other post office buildings;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Staff Associations of Postal Inspectors are taking up the matter of providing departmental accommodation or pay the entire rent, electricity Charges etc. but the Government are not taking any action; and

(d) if so, the reasons for such inaction?